GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3182
ANSWERED ON:22.03.2002
LAND PRODUCTIVITY FOR TEA
AMBATI BRAHMANAIAH

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indian Tea Board is working with the Indian Tea Association to identify specific action areas for increasing land productivity;

(b) if so, whether labour saving methods are also being jointly considered;

(c) if so, whether any comparative studies of wages across the world in tea gardens are being studied;

(d) if so, the details of efforts made to increase land productivity and labour productivity; and

(e) the date by which such plans likely to be implemented in tea gardens across the country?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY)

(a) to (e) : Yes, Sir. Old age of the bushes has been pulling down the land productivity in the country and to counter this limiting factor, Tea Board is working in association with the tea industry for improving the land productivity through uprooting, replantation of the old uneconomical sections of tea, rejuvenation, pruning and consolidation of the fields through infilling the vacancies. Further, tea is a labour intensive crop and the productivity of labour is directly related to the land productivity.

The Tea Board has implemented various developmental Schemes for improving land productivity and quality upgradation in the country. A study on labour productivity, has also been conducted through the National Productivity Council (NPC). Tea Board has organized several training programmes in collaboration with the Tea Associations and the NPC to increase the labour productivity. These areas have also been identified as thrust areas for the Tenth Plan Period.